

NOV 22 2006

Application No.: 10/727,287

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Docket No.: 480062001800

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification at paragraph [0014] as follows:

[0014] A marking is provided on the port stem which indicates to the physician the proper distance to advance the port stem into the catheter for optimal connection. The port stem may have one or more barbs on its outer surface to retain the catheter on the port stem. A catheter lock or a locking sleeve may be placed over the catheter and port stem connection to secure the catheter on the port stem. Since the preferred location for the placement of the catheter may vary depending on the design of the port stem or the property of the catheter, such a marker may facilitate consistent placement of the catheter and avoid problems associated with physicians placing the catheter incorrectly (e.g., advancing the catheter ~~to~~ too far over or failure to advance the catheter far enough), which could potentially cause in vivo leakage of fluids from the catheter, either due to detachment of the catheter from the port stem, compromise in the catheters integrity, or failure of the seal between the catheter and the port stem.

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